

## A New Song

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Summary: A Key the Metal Idol fanfiction taking place after the final movie. Miho Utsuse contemplates her life as she recuperates. Some spoilers for the series.

## A New Song

I was an idol singer, once.

><br>I was worshipped by thousands. My concerts would be sold out in hours

>after being announced. There wasn't a venue in Japan I couldn't fill  
<br>to capacity with people wanting to watch me perform.

><br>But the songs I sang were never really my own. Someone else composed

>them for me; all I ever did was sing them.<br>

>I didn't even perform the songs myself. The body that my fans saw  
<br>onstage was not mine, but a robotic marionette that I controlled with

>agonizing effort. They never saw me, and I never saw them. And all

<br>I had to show for all my struggles was an ever-increasing hole in

>myself.<br>

>It was as if my soul was being eaten away, piece by piece, with every  
<br>concert, every song, every move... every last note. Each time I tried

>to prove to myself and to the world that I was alive, the closer I  
<br>would bring myself to my own death.

><br>I was haunted by dreams of robots, both with my face and without faces

>at all, chasing me through a cold steel nightmare. I awoke knowing  
<br>that this life was going to destroy me.

><br>But it was too late to stop. I was famous. I had fan clubs and

>publicity writers constantly asking: When is Utsuse Miho coming out  
<br>with her next album, and what will it be like? And I had to answer

>them somehow. I had to prove I was still alive and kicking, even if  
<br>it killed me.

><br>And I had Ajou. Beyond anything else, I had him... may he rot in hell.

><br>But one night, my dreams changed. The robots were gone, the crowds were gone, Ajou was gone. I was free. I remember a dark-haired girl placing <br>a hand on my shoulder, and giving me a quiet smile.

><br>"Don't worry... we're in this together."

><br>I awoke to find myself in hospital. Not strapped to the tons of monitors in Ajou's laboratory, but in a regular hospital. The room <br>was pale yellow rather than steel grey, and light - sunlight! When

>had I last seen it? - was streaming in through a window.<br>

>And there was a girl standing by my bedside, clutching a small bouquet <br>of roses.

><br>"Here... these are for you."

><br>"Key hopes you will get well soon." That was all she said. And as she

>turned and left the room, I heard the faintest whisper of a song. Not <br>one that I had ever sung, but an old traditional enka tune. And yet,

>it sounded so strange and new. Was she humming it, or was it in my <br>head?

><br>"Sakura, sakura  
> yayoi no sora wa<br> miwatasu kagiri  
> kasumi ka kumoka<br> nioi zo izuru  
> izaya, izaya miniyukan..."<br>  
>=====<br>  
>\*whew\*<br>

>My first one-hour (correction, 'half-hour') fanfic ever, and after a <br>week-plus where the well's been dry, too. It's not exactly the "Key"

>piece I'd hoped to do, but that'll be larger and longer, I'm sure. <br>Consider this to be testing the waters.

><br>In any case, I discovered a great webpage for unravelling some of the

>mysteries of "Key" - face it, even after you've watched the whole thing, <br>there's a lot that's nearly impossible to understand - and it holds out

>a little hope for both Sakura and Miho, although the film's ending is a <br>bit ambiguous. But I figured I'd take the concept and run with it, and

>see what "Key" fans thought.<br>

>The song "Sakura" is a traditional Japanese song dating at least to <br>pre-WWII times (I lifted it from a copy of Barefoot Gen), telling of

>the blooming of cherry blossoms in the spring. These frail blooms are<br>what Sakura compares herself to in the final movie. Come to think of

>it, I'm feeling a bit frail myself - the Ucchan's been hit by a serious<br>cold, and Dan-chan, Konatsu and myself (in that order) have been put out

>of action. The place is closed until we all recover (thank heaven germs<br>don't get passed along the I-net, so I can still hang out here!), but I

>should be in the pink again by AnimeCentral. Till then (or till the <br>next installment of Extended Play, or whenever), ja!

><br>Itsu mo,  
>Ucchan ^\_^ <p><p>

End  
file.